

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending order 03-129, filed 6/12/03, effective 7/13/03)

WAC 232-12-051 Muzzleloading firearms.

(1) It is unlawful to carry or possess any firearm during muzzleloading seasons which does not meet the following specification for a muzzleloader. A muzzleloading firearm is loaded from the muzzle and uses black powder or a black powder substitute as recommended by the manufacturer for use in muzzleloading firearms. A muzzleloading firearm has a single or double barrel of at least 20 inches, rifled or smooth-bored. Ignition is to be wheel lock, matchlock, flintlock, or percussion using original style percussion caps that fit on the nipple; and are exposed to the elements. Shot shell and 209 primers are not legal.

(2) Sights must be open, peep or of other open sight design. Fiber optic sights are legal. Telescopic sights or sights containing glass are prohibited. It is unlawful to have any electrical device or equipment attached to a muzzleloading firearm while hunting. Except hunters with disabilities who meet the definition of being visually impaired in WAC 232-12-828 may receive a special use permit that would allow the use of scopes or other visual aids. A disabled hunter permit holder in possession of a special use permit that allows the use of a scope or visual aid may hunt game birds or game animals during muzzleloader seasons.

~~((+2))~~ (3) A muzzleloading firearm used for deer must fire a single, nonjacketed lead projectile of nominal 40 caliber or larger, except that buckshot size #1 or larger may be used in a smoothbore of 60 caliber or larger.

~~((+3))~~ (4) A muzzleloading firearm used for all other big game must fire a single, nonjacketed lead projectile of nominal 50 caliber or larger, or fire a single, nonjacketed lead projectile of at least 170 grains.

~~((+4))~~ (5) This section shall not apply to the carrying of a handgun designed to be charged with black powder only.

~~((+5))~~ (6) This section shall not apply to persons lawfully hunting game birds with a shotgun.

~~((+6))~~ (7) Only one barrel of a double barrel muzzleloader may be ~~((charged with a load))~~ loaded with powder or bullet or capped at any one time while hunting in a muzzleloading season except in specified firearm restricted areas.